

## **Weekly Status & Information Report: Week of October 18, 2004**

### **1. Quarterly Report on Tree Permits and Waivers** *(from the City Arborist):*

#### 3rd Quarter - July 1-September 30

Applications received: 69 (116 trees)  
Permits: 50  
Waivers: 63  
Denials: 1  
Emergency waivers: 2

#### Year to Date numbers

Applications received: 159 (263 trees)  
Permits: 124 (47%)  
Waivers: 124 (47%)  
Denials: 7 (3%)  
Emergency waivers: 8 (3%)

**(City Council:** Please note that I attached this week's S&I as an RTF and a WordPerfect file so you may see the Arborist's report in a table. - Peggye)

**2. Impact Silver Spring - Applications Available (City Wide):** Impact Silver Spring is having an information session on November 4, 6-8 p.m. for the Community Empowerment 2005 leadership program. Representing Takoma Park in the 2004 Community Empowerment Program are Mary Stover, Nicole Pauls and Joyce Seaman. They are the first residents participating in the program via the City's new leadership initiative. For more information contact Impact Silver Spring, 301-495-3336 or visit [www.impactsilverspring.org](http://www.impactsilverspring.org) *(Housing and Community Development)*

**3. State Capital Grants Seminar:** HCD & Finance staff attended a State Capital Grants Seminar in Arnold, MD. The seminar outlined the process and four agencies (Maryland Historical Trust, Department of General Services, Comptroller's Office and the Treasurer's Office) involved in the granting of a State appropriated grant. The training confirmed that City staff has been diligent in following all the required steps in obtaining reimbursements for State Grants. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**4. Takoma Main Street Work Plan and Visioning Session (Wards 1 and 3):** Takoma Main Street held a work plan and visioning session on Tuesday night that was facilitated by Joseph Brown of the Maryland Main Street program. Around 25 residents, business owners, and other stakeholders participated in the session and formed four Main Street committees: Organization, Design, Promotions, and Economic Restructuring. These committees are charged with implementing the work plan for Takoma Main Street. The committees provide a great opportunity for residents and others to help improve the Old Takoma business district. To get involved, contact OTBA Program Manager Mary Stover at [marystover@takomaonline.com](mailto:marystover@takomaonline.com) or 240-253-4229. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**5. Long Branch Task Force Meeting and Annual Report (Ward 5):** The Long Branch Task Force presented its second annual report on Thursday night at a meeting held at the Long Branch Community Center. The report consists of over 100 recommendations that are broken down into four categories: Safety; Youth, Schools, Childcare and Enrichment; Housing; and Economic and Commercial Development. Speakers included County Executive Douglas Duncan and County Council Member Tom Perez who both committed to helping to implement the Task Force's recommendations. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**6. Annual Rent Stabilization Reports (City Wide):** Review of all the rent stabilization reports from the 6/30/03-7/1/04 recording period is underway. Reported rents are compared with last year's information to confirm compliance with the rent stabilization law. Rent surveys are also being sent to a number of randomly selected properties with tenants being asked to confirm the amount of rent they pay for their unit. LT staff have found on a number of occasions, that the rent being paid by the tenants were not consistent with had been reported by the landlord. In these

cases, a municipal infraction citation is issued and/or a COLTA complaint filed. (*Housing and Economic Development*)

7. **Strengthening Older Communities Symposium:** HCD staff attended a symposium on how communities can address concerns regarding vacant and abandoned properties presented by Johns Hopkins University and the National Association of Realtors in Baltimore on Oct 19th. Of interest to HCD were the presentations addressing the acquisition, renovation and disposition of vacant or abandoned residential properties and their impact on neighborhoods. After a welcome from Mayor O'Malley of Baltimore, speakers from both national and local agencies addressed the issues. (*Housing and Community Development*)

8. **Police in Terrorism Training:** All officers are taking roll call training, "Patrolling in the New Era of Terrorism" provided by the FBI, Dept. of Homeland Security and TSC (Terrorist Screening Center). Denise Pullet of Administrative Services participated at the Montgomery County EOC during a mock drill for terrorism response that took place at NIH and the NNMC/Bethesda on Thursday. She also attended a Maryland Police Planners meeting last week, which dealt in part with the same topics. Chief Creamer Tuesday attended the Montgomery County Chiefs sharing session and a Montgomery County council worksession regarding development of a homeland security office within Montgomery County. (*Police*)

9. **Crime & Arrests (Wards 1 & 6):** A suspect has been identified and an arrest warrant filed in the daytime robbery of a Carroll Avenue shop on Sept. 29. A 16-year-old city youth was arrested on charges of possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia, following an accident at 3:44 a.m. in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Avenue, during which he was driving unaccompanied on a learner's permit. Follow-up investigation, after a routine call for service, resulted in patrol officers arresting a man for use of a fraudulent identification card; subsequent investigation showed a warrant for failure to appear on a 2002 Takoma Park embezzlement charge and additional warrants from Georgia. (*Police*)

10. **C-SAFE (Ward 6):** A second Community Organizer has been hired to work with the Maryland International Corridor C-SAFE initiative. Mary Kendall, a graduate of Penn State and former Peace Corps worker, begins work Oct. 25th. (*Police*)

11. **Rabies (Wards 1 & 3):** Officers destroyed a raccoon last Saturday in the 7000 block of Eastern Avenue, after receiving a call for an aggressive animal. It became the fourth confirmed rabies positive raccoon in five weeks; another aggressive and destroyed animal was not tested. COP Team members are addressing the issue. (*Police*)

12. **COP Team (Wards 1-5):** COP Team: X Sector Specialist, Ofc. Butler attended a citizen's meeting at Hillwood Manor Apts; he also arranged inclusion of auto-theft deterrence information in the monthly bills at Hampshire Towers Apt. (Ward 6) V Sector Specialist, Ofc. Smith has been spending time at the TP Middle School interacting with students. She has been accompanied by Ofc. Desiree Palmer, who is training with her. (*Police*)

13. **Neighborhood Safety Contacts (All Wards):** The PSCAC held a meeting of Neighborhood Safety Contacts at Takoma Tower on Wednesday, attended by six NSC. (*Police*)

14. **Safe Neighborhood Day (County Wide):** October 29th is Safe Neighborhood Day in Montgomery County. The County Executive's Office is encouraging pedestrian safety and awareness and has provided front yard signs for County residents that advise passers by to "Drive With Care/Walk With Caution". Yard signs are available for residents at the Takoma Park Library and the Takoma Park Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue. Ideal locations for these signs are in yards along busy streets, near bus stops, and near schools, but not in any State or County roadway median. For more information

on Safe Neighborhood Day, please go to [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/walk](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/walk) and select the calendar at the bottom. (*Housing and Community Development*)